DOCUMENT RESUME

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IDENTIFIERS	*Drywall Construction; *Preapprenticeship Programs

ABSTRACT

This student training module is an introduction to the drywall trade. (A companion instructor's guide is available separately as CE 032 886; also, other student modules are available--see note.) The modules are designed to introduce trade knowledge and skills to the student. This module contains a cover sheet listing module title, goal, and performance indicators; a study guide/checklist with directions for module completion; information sheets providing background information about the drywall trade; supplementary references; self-assessment; self-assessment answers; post assessment; and post-assessment answers for the instructor. Topics covered in the module include the history, trends, working environment, employment practices and outlook, and wage scale of the drywall trade. (KC)

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ED2172251

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING SYSTEMS

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PHASE 1 TRAINING.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DRYWALL TRADE

209183

Goal:

The student will be able to explain briefly the history, trends, working environment, employment practices and outlook and wage scale of the trade.

Performance Indicators:

The student will complete a Self and Post Assessment exam which will demonstrate his or her knowledge of the subject.

CE032 887

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Study Guide

This guide is to be used as a "blueprint" for the completion of this module. Complete the tasks in the order listed below; place a check by each task as it's completed.

1. ____ Read the Goal and Performance Indicators on the cover of this module.

2. ____ Study the Information section.

3. ____ Complete the Self Assessment and compare your answers with those on the Self Assessment Answer Sheet. Re-study the Information section if you had difficulty with the Self Assessment.

4. ____ Complete the Post Assessment. Turn in your answer sheet to your instructor.

Information

HISTORY

Gypsum drywall is a relatively new trade, but wallboard was invented by Augustine Sackett in the late 1880s. Spackling material was used to fill the joints, which were then taped with muslin. The work went slowly until the late 1920s and into the 1930s, when ivory paper replaced the old covering paper. Paper fibers were added to the basic core material, and wallboard had tapered edges. Perforated paper tape and specialized joint compounds were developed and refined until drywall construction became prevalent.

TRENDS

In the last two decades the drywall system of wall covering and interior partitioning has revolutionized the construction industry. Some 89 percent of all new residential construction uses gypsum drywall for walls and ceilings because it saves time and money compared to traditional construction using plaster.

The competition in the industry has lead to excellent products that offer sound control and fire resistant qualities, as well as speed and relatively clean installation. Many unique and attractive finishes may be applied to drywall surfaces. Formerly lath and plaster methods were used. Literally tons of water was needed for a project, which meant that warpage in the basic timber structure might occur, in addition to long drying times during bad weather. Drywall will be in contuining demand.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Drywall installation can be strenuous work. Installers and finishers often spend their day standing, bending, stooping, or squatting. They also have to lift and maneuver heavy panels. Hazards include possibly falling from ladders, lifting objects that are too heavy, or injuries from power tools.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

Drywall finishers usually start learning the trade as helpers, and learn most of their skills on the job. Some employers, in cooperation with unions, offer hours of classroom instruction in addition to their two year on-the-job training.

Employers prefer high school graduates who are in good physical condition, but applicants with less education may be hired. Desirable traits also include previous courses in carpentry and a good understanding of math.

In 1978 approximately 82,000 persons worked as drywall installers and finishers. Most of those employed worked for drywall construction contractors. The majority were employed in urban areas of this country.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment of drywall workers is expected to steadily increase in the 1980's, due particularly to an increase in residential construction. The recent slowdown in construction, however, illustrates that the number of new workers needed may fluctuate from year to year.

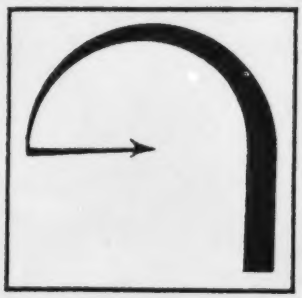
WAGE SCALE

In 1978 drywall installers averaged about $10.00 an hour, with trainees beginning at about half the rate paid to experienced workers. Contractors may pay their workers according to the amount of work they complete daily. For example, three to six cents may be paid for each square foot of panel installed.

The work is not as seasonal as many of the trades because it is done primarily indoors. A 40-hour week is standard with overtime being required for some projects. Those who are paid on an hourly basis receive premium pay for overtime.

Union fees may be deducted from wages if you're an installer and belong to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, or a finisher who is a member of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades.

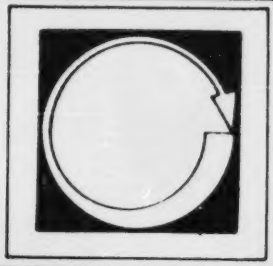
Supplementary References



Drywall Taping Workbook, California State Department of Education, 1972.

Occupational Outlook Handbook, 1980-81 Edition, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, March, 1980.

Self Assessment



If the statement is true, place a T in the space provided. If the statement is false, place an F in the space.

1. ____ Drywall installation is not strenuous.

2. ____ Employers prefer high school graduates who are in good physical condition.

3. ____ In 1978 approximately 40,000 persons worked in the drywall industry.

4. ____ Gypsum drywall is used as flooring in 89% of new construction.

5. ____ The number of workers in the trade will decrease in the 1980s.

6. ____ Most drywall work is done in rural areas.

7. ____ Drywall work pays the beginner about $10.00 per hour.

8. ____ Most drywall work is done outdoors.

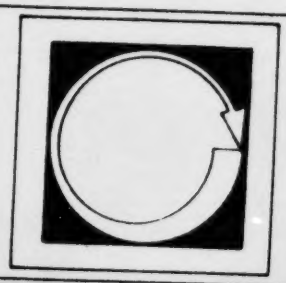
9. ____ Drywall is faster and cleaner than older systems.

10. ____ Most drywall installation is done sitting down.

Self Assessment Answers

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. F
8. F
9. T
10. F

Post Assessment



Following each statement or question is a word or words which completes the statement or answers the question. Select the correct one and write its corresponding letter in the blank provided.

1. ____ Wallboard was invented in the
   a. 1880s
   b. 1950s
   c. 1720s

2. ____ During the last two decades the drywall system has _____ the construction industry.
   a. degraded
   b. slowed down
   c. revolutionized

3. ____ On-the-job training in this trade lasts
   a. 6 months
   b. two years
   c. four years

4. ____ Most drywall work is done
   a. outdoors
   b. in 20-story buildings
   c. indoors

5. ____ Union fees are
   a. deducted from wages
   b. voluntary
   c. non-existent

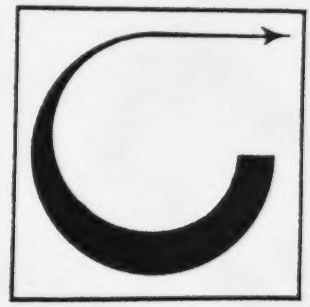
6. ____ Drywall work, as compared with other construction trades, is
   a. not as seasonal
   b. more seasonal
   c. very seasonal

7. ____ Some _____ percent of new residential construction uses drywall.
   a. 40
   b. 98
   c. 89

8. ____ Drywall panels are
   a. lighter than wood
   b. heavy
   c. extremely small

9. ____ In 1978, some _____ persons worked in the drywall industry.
   a. 8,200
   b. 82,000
   c. 820,000

Instructor Post Assessment Answers



1. a
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. a
7. c
8. b
9. b